

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Request for Filing Divisional Application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

22141 U.S. PTO  
10/720878

Transmitted herewith for filing is the Patent Application of:

Inventor: Eric L. Barsness

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING INSTANT MESSAGING****ASSIGNEE: International Business Machines Corporation****ASSIGNEE RESIDENCE: Armonk, New York**

This is a request for filing a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial Number 09/482,452, filed on January 13, 2000, and entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING INSTANT MESSAGING". The prior application has been incorporated by reference herein.

The following is attached:

- ☒ Transmittal sheet (in duplicate) containing Certificate of Mailing under 37 C.F.R. §1.10
- ☒ Continuation Utility Patent Application, with 24 pages of Specification, 5 pages of Claims (17 total claims, of which 3 are Independent) and 1 page Abstract (filing fees calculated below)
- ☒ Copy of Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney from prior application
- ☒ 11 sheets of formal drawings
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO/SB/08A
- ☐ Change of Attorney Address and Associate Power of Attorney
- ☒ Return Postcard

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

Express Mail Label No.: EU163621370US  
Date: November 24, 2003

I hereby certify that I am depositing the enclosed or attached paper with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the above date, addressed to: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Susan K. Berge

Divisional Application Transmittal  
Attorney Docket No.: ROC919990144US2

The filing fee has been calculated as follows:

For:	No. Filed	No. Extra
Basic Fee		
Total Claims	17 -20 =	0
Indep. Claims	3 -3 =	0
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Dependent Claim Presented		

Other Than Small Entity

Rate	Fee
	\$770.00
x \$18.00=	0.00
x \$86.00=	0.00
\$290.00	\$ 0.00
TOTAL	\$ 770.00

Deposit Account Authorization:

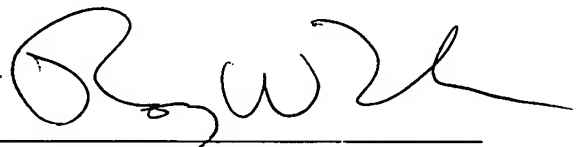
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0465 in the amount of \$770.00. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 09-0465. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

ERIC L. BARSNESS

Date: November 24, 2003

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